

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims below by deleting items marked with a strikeout (i.e. ~~patent~~) or double brackets (i.e., [[patent]]) and adding items marked with an underline (i.e. patent).

1. (Canceled) ~~A fluid vessel with retractable straw comprising:~~
~~— a container having a threaded upper spout that is threadingly engaged to a lid;~~
~~— said lid formed of an upper cap covering a lower lid assembly, said upper cap attached to and covering a housing base and forming an orifice through which a retractable straw extends in a vertical, linearly actuated manner.~~
2. (Amended) A[[The]] fluid vessel with retractable straw [[of Claim 1]] comprising:
a container having a threaded upper spout that is threadingly engaged to a lid;
said lid formed of an upper cap covering a lower lid assembly, said upper cap attached to and covering a housing base and forming an orifice through which a retractable straw extends in a vertical, linearly actuated manner, wherein said straw forms generally cylindrical tube having a series of linearly aligned rack gears circumscribing an outer tube surface[[, and further comprising:]];

lifting cam having radially extended gears and pivotally supported by an axle upon a housing base;

a linearly tracking actuation button guided perpendicular to said lifting cam for driving a transfer gear having series of linearly aligned, vertically extended gear detente; and

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/645,379

an actuation button spring urged against said transfer gear;
wherein said straw penetrates downward through said lower lid assembly to form a fluid communication between a straw drinking orifice the fluid volume of the fluid vessel.

3. (Amended) A fluid vessel with sealing, retractable straw comprising:

a container having an interior volume and an upper container orifice;

an upper lid for attaching to said container and covering said upper container orifice,

wherein said upper lid further comprises a lower straw housing in which the lower part of said straw;

a straw linearly actuated within said lid such as to extend in a vertical, linearly actuated manner between an extended position and a retracted position, wherein said straw further comprises an internal straw conduit circumscribed by an outer cylindrical surface, an upper drinking orifice formed at one end of said straw, a closed engagement nipple at an end surface of the lower portion of the straw, and an entry orifice formed vertically along the outer cylindrical surface at the lower portion of the straw; and

lifting means for linearly actuating said straw;

wherein in said extended position said straw is in fluid communication with said interior volume and in said retracted position said straw is sealed within said upper lid[[, thereby preventing leakage from said interior volume]]; and

an actuation button housed with said upper lid, wherein any lateral articulation of said actuation button vertically articulates said straw.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/645,379

4. (Cancel) ~~The fluid vessel of Claim 3, further comprising:
— an actuation button housed with said upper lid, wherein any lateral articulation of said
actuation button vertically articulates said straw.~~
5. (Cancel) ~~The fluid vessel of Claim 4, wherein said upper lid further comprises a lower
straw housing in which the lower part of said straw.~~
6. (Cancel) ~~The fluid vessel of Claim 5, wherein said straw further comprises:
— an internal straw conduit circumscribed by an outer cylindrical surface;
— an upper drinking orifice formed at one end of said straw;
— a closed engagement nipple at an end surface of the lower portion of the straw, and
— an entry orifice formed vertically along the outer cylindrical surface at the lower portion of
the straw.~~
7. (Amended) The fluid vessel of claim 3, wherein said lifting means comprises:
lifting cam having radially extended gears and pivotally supported by an axle upon a
housing base;
a linearly tracking actuation button guided perpendicular to said lifting cam for driving a
transfer gear having series of linearly aligned, vertically extended gear detente; and
said transfer gear spring urged against said actuation button.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/645,379

8. (Amended) The fluid vessel of claim [[6]] 3, wherein said lifting means comprises:
lifting cam having radially extended gears and pivotally supported by an axle upon a housing base;
a linearly tracking actuation button guided perpendicular to said lifting cam for driving a transfer gear having series of linearly aligned, vertically extended gear detente; and
said transfer gear spring urged against said linearly tracking actuation button.
9. (Cancel) ~~The fluid vessel of Claim 8, wherein said closed engagement nipple seals against said lower straw housing when said straw is in said retracted position.~~